



News Release

North Dakota District Office

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Ruth Newman named SBA's North Dakota Small Business Journalist of the Year

FARGO – Ruth Newman, publisher of The Dickinson Press, has been named the *2006 North Dakota Small Business Journalist of the Year* by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

This annual award is given to a journalist representing television, radio, electronic, or a print medium whose work has contributed to the public understanding of the importance of small business contributions to the economy and whose voluntary community service has helped enhance small business opportunity and growth. The Dickinson Chamber of Commerce nominated Newman for the award. Newman was selected after a statewide competition.

“SBA is proud to recognize Ruth Newman as North Dakota Small Business Journalist of the Year. Her passion for journalism and the integrity shown by her work and community involvement are important contributions to the small businesses in North Dakota,” SBA District Director Jim Stai said.

Newman began her newspaper career in 1980 as a typesetter at the Williston Herald. After a year typing and designing ads, she moved into the newsroom as the Lifestyles Editor and reporter. She then took over the farm beat and the Plains Reporter, a weekly farm paper. In 1998, Newman became the news editor at the West Central Tribune in Willmar, Minnesota. After six months, she was promoted to editor, a position she held for three years. In August of 2001, Newman became publisher of The Dickinson Press, a daily newspaper with 55 employees serving southwest North Dakota.

Newman is a board member for the North Dakota Newspaper Association; a board member of St. Joseph's Hospital, where she is chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee; a member of the Legislative Affairs Committee for the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce; is involved with the Marketing Roundtable and is working with the committee to help establish the Dickinson State University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Rural Revitalization in Dickinson.

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In recognition of the small business community's contribution to the American economy and society, the President of the United States designates one week each year as National Small Business Week. This year it is April 9-15, 2006. Leading up to that week, the U.S. Small Business Administration, a federal agency dedicated to assisting small business owners start and expand their businesses, presents awards honoring the nation's entrepreneurs and small business champions.

For more information on the SBA's programs for small businesses, visit the SBA's North Dakota website at www.sba.gov/nd/.

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